

*approved
10-27-03*

OCONEE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting October 21, 2002
Watkinsville Library

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Linda Smith. The quorum present consisted of the following: Kathryn Ames, Debbie Trasher, Linda Smith, Peter Wyllie, Deann Craft, Billy Porter, Ray Billings, Elaine Brown, Doug Eza, Mitchell Swan, and Judy Atwood.

Corrections were made to the previous minutes: corrected the spelling of SIRSI, change wording in last paragraph from Doris moved to Doris suggested, and under new business in Proposal B, the amount the material budget was cut was 13 cents per capita. With these corrections the minutes were approved by Peter Wyllie and seconded by Mitchell Swan.

Public Comments: Pattie Ivey addressed the board. As a member of the Joint Task Force, composed of the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education, she brought forth the suggestion of a combined school and public library at the new high school. Building the libraries independently would use more of our tax dollars. As a part of the school, it would have limited use. This would open up the library for public use and would give us more for our tax dollars. The approximate cost of the combined library will be \$2 million dollars. There would be many issues that would have to be settled up front, such as ownership issues, the PINES System, wages, staffing, and collections. Doug Eza stated that the high school library will be able to be closed off for the school with a separate entrance and bathrooms. These shared libraries have been established in other states with much success, however none are in Georgia. We may be able to get a grant from the state with our school being experimental in this area. After much discussion it was agreed that would be cost effective for citizens, but a lot of work would need to be done. It was suggested we communicate with the Board of Education and the Commissioners to keep this option open for future consideration.

Branch Manager's Report: Nathan Gilmore has been hired as Bogart's new part-time person. Evelyn Knauft, a new employee at Watkinsville, will be taking the place of Nancy Scott. Christine Dietz has been substituting at Watkinsville. Katie LeFlame will be leaving in December, so we will need to hire a new employee. Judy Atwood is the new liaison to the Board from Athens Regional Library. The Georgia Council of Media Organization 2002 Conference on Grassroots Advocacy was held. They used Bogart as an example. Both our libraries compared favorably to the other libraries our size. This was attended by Debbie Trasher, Board members Linda Smith, Doris Firth, Elaine Brown, and Friends president. We received a grant that will allow us to purchase two new computers and two flat screen monitors for each location. We are also working on a grant to expand a program called Family Place. This is a parent-child workshop to network with community resources. The state has notified us that our material budget will be cut from 60 cents per capita to 47 cents per capita. They anticipate a further reduction of 3 to 5 percent.

FY03 - 47 cents	State	Local
Watkinsville	10,020.00	2,370.00
Bogart	2,551.00	3,000.00

Bogart 14 less books and Watkinsville less 57. The city of Bogart gave the Bogart Library \$3,000.00 earmarked for children's books and the Oconee County Library Friends have gotten grant money for materials as well.

The meeting rooms continue to have high usage. The display cases and wall space have been filled. Many people have come to the library to see the current display of Dr. Roy Ward's circa 1900 photographs.

Regional Manager's Report: Kathryn received positive comments through the Director's meeting. She was one of 20 people invited to a workshop called "Managing for Results" in Denver. Gates Foundation is talking about upgrading our computers. No mention was made of returning our current ones.

Our grant writers are working on a grant for materials in Spanish for both locations. The Office of Planning and Budget Governor to legislative \$2 million has reduced the amount from \$5000 to \$3000 for repairs. This grant requires a 50/50 match and must be submitted in January.

Friend's Report: Linda Smith reported the Friend's Family Fun Day will be Saturday. "Star Spangled Family Fun Day" is supported by a grant from Athens Junior League. Eleanor Cotton is the newly elected President. Bogart Friends reported a successful fall festival booth where we made \$417.00 Watkinsville had a booth at the Watkinsville fall festival, but it just promoted the library and was not a fund-raiser.

Old Business: The Oconee County Sheriff's Department has set up their sub-station at Bogart, but it has not been used much. The Strategic Planning Committee re-organized. Members will be Mitchell Swan, Linda Smith, and Elaine Brown.

New Business: THE JOINT SCHOOL/ PUBLIC LIBRARY: The Board agreed it would be best to start on a limited basis, for instance start with summer hours, then expand if it works out. Doug Eza emphasized it would be good utilization of tax dollars.

HIGHWAY WIDENING REPORT: The plans are at the DOT office. Debbie Trasher reported that we wouldn't be affected much. We would lose trees. There will be sidewalks and a bike lane. Linda Smith suggested we should look into land behind the library. Peter Wyllie will find out about ownership and plans for the land.

PARK: The proposed park will be voted on in the November 5th election. There might be room for a library/computer room.

SPLOST: November 2003 will need to be voted on again. Walmart has brought \$50,000 per month in when the cap is reached. If we want to get included, a request must be made in January. We need to be tied to a capital project for state funding. Deann Craft suggested expanding Bogart as we have outgrown our space.

Meeting was adjourned. The next meeting was scheduled for January 27th at 4:30 in Watkinsville.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deann Craft